



Second Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2020

Westminster Presbyterian Church extends an enthusiastic welcome, in Christ's name, to all who worship here or join us in fellowship. Our church family seeks to embody God's boundless love by embracing, liberating and empowering people – whoever they are and wherever they may be on their faith journeys – to realize the transforming power of Christ in our congregation, community and the world beyond.

**A Covenant Network Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
An Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)**

1502 West 13th Street ♦ Wilmington, DE 19806 ♦ 302-654-5214 ♦ www.wpc.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Risen Lord, give us a heart for the simple things: love, laughter, bread and wine and dreams. Give us a green growing hope, and make of us a people
whose song is alleluia,
whose name is love,
whose sign is peace.*

*da Noust, L'Arche Community,
Edinburgh, Scotland*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to our virtual worship service. We invite you to participate in the liturgy by joining the worship leader on lines printed in **bold**.

Illustrated Ministry has provided the materials attached at the end of the bulletin for worshipping with children. We hope you will print them out and use them for participation in this service or for family devotions throughout the week. Westminster's educational offerings have also moved online! You can find information about this week's offerings at the end of this Order of Worship.

We hope you will stay connected with our community of faith during this season of social distancing by subscribing to the Weekly Word through the homepage of our website (www.wpc.org), liking us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/wpcdelaware>), or following us on Instagram (wpcdelaware).

Let us worship God!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ has passed through the door of death and opened the way to new life.

Because Christ has conquered death, we can truly live.

His presence penetrates our fears and lifts us from despair.

Let us give thanks to God for new beginnings.

HYMN NO. 234

“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”

Vs. 3 & 4

**Now the queen of seasons,
bright with the day of splendor,
with the royal feast of feasts
comes its joy to render;
Comes to glad Jerusalem,
who with true affection
welcomes in unwearied strains
Jesus' resurrection!**

**Neither could the gates of death,
nor the tomb's dark portal,
nor the watchers, nor the seal
hold you as a mortal:
But today, among your own,
you appear, bestowing
your deep peace, which evermore
passes human knowing.**

OPENING PRAYER

**Eternal God,
the strength of those who believe
and the hope of those who doubt,
may we, who have not seen, have faith
and receive the fullness of your blessing.
Increase in our minds and hearts
the risen life we share with Christ,
and help us to grow as your people
and do the good you would have us do
then rise in the fullness of eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen.**

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 20:19-22

SERMON

“No More Business as Usual”

Greg Jones

HYMN NO. 235

“O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing”
Vs. 1 & 4

**Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
O sons and daughters, let us sing
with heavenly hosts to Christ our King;
today the grave has lost its sting!
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
"My pierced side, O Thomas, see;
and look upon my hands, my feet;
not faithless, but believing be."
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**That Easter day with joy was bright; From every weapon death can wield,
the sun shone out with fairer light when, your own redeemed forever shield;
to their longing eyes restored, O Lord of all, with us abide
the apostles saw their risen Lord. in this our joyful Eastertide.**

BENEDICTION

GOING FORTH: OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OUR LIVES TO GOD

With gratitude for the grace we have received, we go forth from worship to offer our energy, our hands, and part of our income in service to God. One way we respond to Christ’s call is by giving our financial gifts to further God’s mission in the world. You may mail a check to the church or make an online offering to support the ministry of Westminster Presbyterian Church by clicking “Donate Now” on the homepage of our website (www.wpc.org).

PASSING OF THE PEACE

According to John’s Gospel, the Risen Christ appeared to his disciples as they huddled behind locked doors and offered them the gift of peace (John 20:19). We invite you to share signs of Christ’s peace with those with whom you are gathered, or to pass the peace virtually by calling, emailing, or texting your brothers and sisters in Christ.

PARTICIPANTS

The Rev. Dr. Gregory Knox Jones
Sharon Babcock, Interim Director of Music
Chorister: Olivia Forney
Videographers: Roger Reinicker, Baden Saathoff

SOURCES AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are grateful to Westminster John Knox Press for making available the complete list of public domain hymns included in the *Glory to God* hymnal and to Illustrated Ministry (<https://www.illustratedministry.com/>) for providing free resources for children of all ages to use during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

This Week's Educational Offerings

Today at 10:10 a.m.

Lectio Divina (LIVE!)

<https://zoom.us/j/4937200361> (password: wpc)

Presenter: Chesna Hinkley

Come to our Zoom room for virtual Adult Ed! Chesna will introduce the ancient practice of lectio divina for reading scripture. We will experience the lectio with 2-3 passages and discuss how to adapt this technique for personal and family devotional use. If you have trouble with the link, go to zoom.us and join with the Meeting ID: 493 720 0361.

Wednesdays 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. OR Thursdays 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Bible Study

<https://zoom.us/j/4937200361> (password: wpc)

Presenter: Chesna Hinkley

While Westminster is closed, the "Eat and Exegete" Bible study will move to Westminster's Zoom classroom at the above link! Visit the link at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays OR 12:30 p.m. on Thursdays for fellowship, Bible study, and prayer. This is a LIVE Bible study! Contact Chesna (chesnahinkley@wpc.org) with questions.

Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.

Online Evening Prayer

<https://zoom.us/j/4937200361> (password: wpc)

Presenter: Chesna Hinkley

Click the link above on Wednesday evenings for a short, informal LIVE prayer service. We will share a liturgy and some open time to pray for ourselves, our community, and the world. Use a laptop or smartphone for optimal experience with this technology.

Thursdays at 5:00 p.m.

Women's Online Community Group

Coordinator: Jill Getty

For women of the church to provide connection and friendship, this group meets virtually using Zoom.com. If you are interested, please email Jill Getty at jgetty@wpc.org and she will add you to the weekly participant email list to receive the link and password.

180 Activities

<https://zoom.us/j/4937200361> (password: wpc)

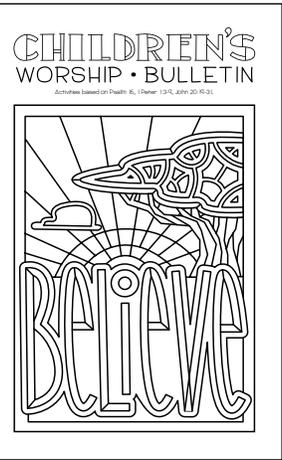
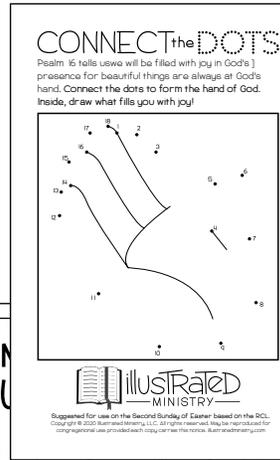
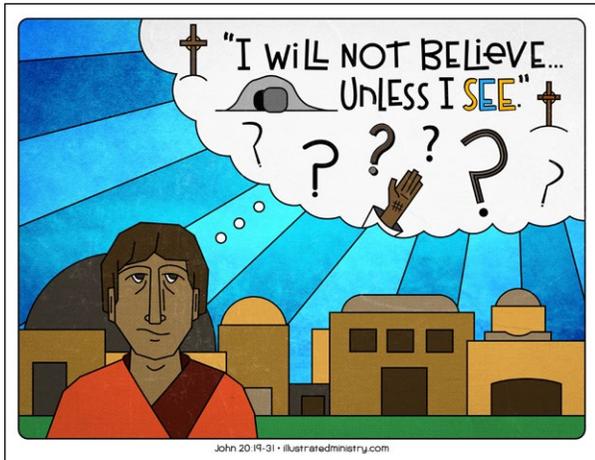
High schoolers meet for small group on Thursdays at 5:30-6:30pm (text Molly or Tommy for the link).

6-12th grade meets at the link above Sundays at 11:30-12:15 for a quick chat, highs and lows.

Email Chesna (chesnahinkley@wpc.org) with questions.

Follow us for more on Instagram @180youth_wpc

Faith Formation Resources for the Second Sunday of Easter





Resources provided by Illustrated Ministry, LLC. illustratedministry.com

Contributors: Arianne Braithwaite Lehn, Corby Ortmann

Concept & Editing: Rebekah Lowe

Founder: Adam Walker Cleaveland

Unless otherwise noted, scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV).

Published by Illustrated Ministry, LLC, Racine, Wisconsin.

illustratedministry.com
info@illustratedministry.com



RESOURCES FROM ILLUSTRATED MINISTRY

As the world struggles to adjust to life amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, necessary disruptions are affecting all aspects of our lives. Schools are closing, places of worship are canceling services, sports seasons are being suspended, and we are all adjusting to this new way of life. Illustrated Ministry hopes that these faith formation resources are meaningful and helpful to you.

We will be sending a weekly email during the COVID-19 pandemic which will include faith formation resources for all ages. We will be following the Revised Common Lectionary, and most of the resources will line up with the appropriate texts for each of the Sundays. If this resource was forwarded to you, and you would like to sign up to receive the weekly email in your inbox, you can sign up at: illustratedministry.com/flattenthecurve

The weekly resource consists of a variety of resources, including children's worship bulletins, devotionals, and coloring pages. There are a variety of different ways you could use these resources at home:

- As a family, put together an order of worship. You can use this as an interactive piece to the scripture reading and message/sermon.
- Use this as an individual or family devotional to reflect on throughout the week.
- Get a group of friends together, virtually, and color the coloring page and reflect on the scripture passage.
- While you watch your church's virtual worship service, your children can color the coloring page or do the activities in the children's worship bulletin.

We hope you enjoy this resource, and if you have any questions about it, you can always reach us at info@illustratedministry.com. If you want to connect with others and see how they are using our resources, you can also follow us on social media:

Facebook: fb.com/illustratedmin
Instagram: instagram.com/illustratedmin
Twitter: twitter.com/illustratedmin
Pinterest: pinterest.com/illustratedmin

Our Facebook Group is a growing community. If you're looking for ideas and suggestions for using this resource, you can request to join here:
fb.com/groups/illustratedmin

Peace,

The Illustrated Ministry Team

This page left blank intentionally.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - APRIL 19

Describe a time when someone really listened to you and helped you figure out what you really needed when you were scared or upset about something.

Note: If you are with a group, have each person take a turn sharing.

Scripture Reading: John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Reflection

In today's scripture, Jesus visits the disciples after he's been raised from the dead. For those brief moments, it must have been a joyous time when Jesus came back to be with them. Maybe even a bit comforting in a very troubling time. But it wasn't for Thomas because he wasn't there. He didn't experience what the others experienced.

The disciples were living in a very scary time. Their friend had died, and now their lives might be at risk because of their association with Jesus. They locked themselves up in a house and felt unsafe. They needed assurance; they needed to know what they were putting their lives at risk for was worth it.

We don't know where Thomas was and why he missed seeing Jesus. Did he go out to get some groceries? Perhaps he volunteered to pick up some essential supplies to use until it was safe to go out again. When Thomas returned, his friends told him all about how Jesus had visited them.

Imagine how Thomas must have felt. His life was at risk by being away from this safe house, and the very moment he comes back to safety, they tell him Jesus showed up. Jesus is alive! But Thomas couldn't believe it; nope, not unless he saw Jesus for himself.

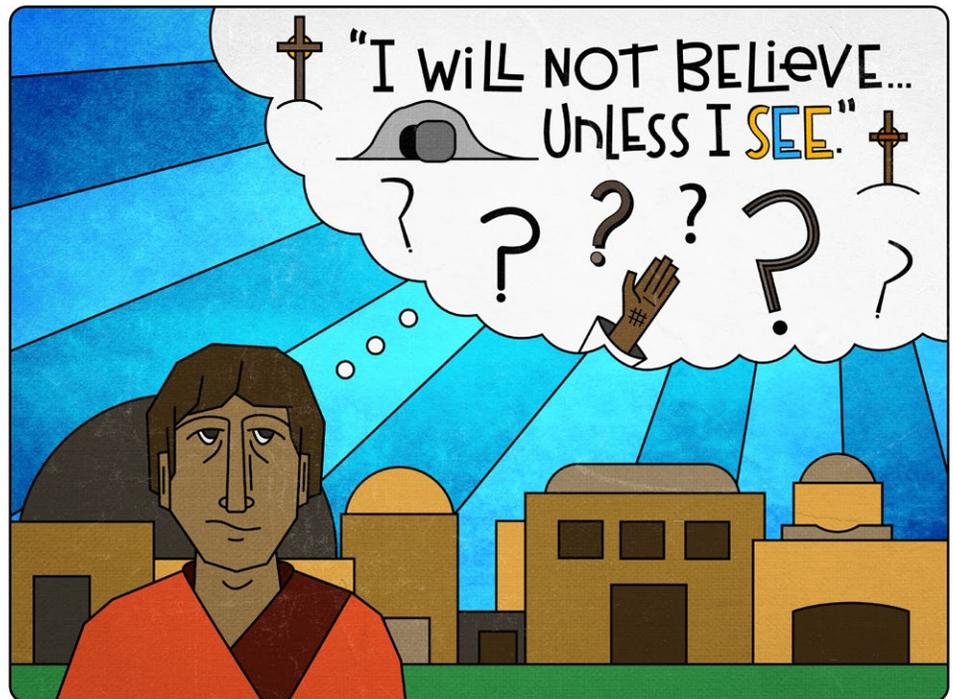
At first glance, it is tempting to dismiss Thomas for not believing. But then, we know the rest of the story.

When Jesus appeared to the disciples a second time, a week later, Thomas was there. Jesus didn't mind that Thomas had a hard time believing what his friends told him. Instead of getting irritated with Thomas, Jesus gently shows him the scars on his hands. Thomas needed this assurance. Jesus knew Thomas's disbelief came from a place of pain and grief, and maybe even an attempt to protect the little bit of hope Thomas had left.

Sometimes, when we feel frightened or upset, or even incredibly happy, how we respond to something might not fully explain all the feelings and concerns we are holding onto at that moment. When someone says something that seems a bit unbelievable or doesn't make sense, it can be easy to dismiss them.

Thomas needed to see Jesus' wounds, and Jesus gave Thomas what Thomas needed. In doing so, Jesus honored Thomas's many feelings, worries, and fears.

We are all still living with uncertainty and fears due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We can show love and kindness to each other by paying extra attention to the people around us, listening carefully, and honoring the feelings about what we're going through together.



John 20:19-31 • illustratedministry.com

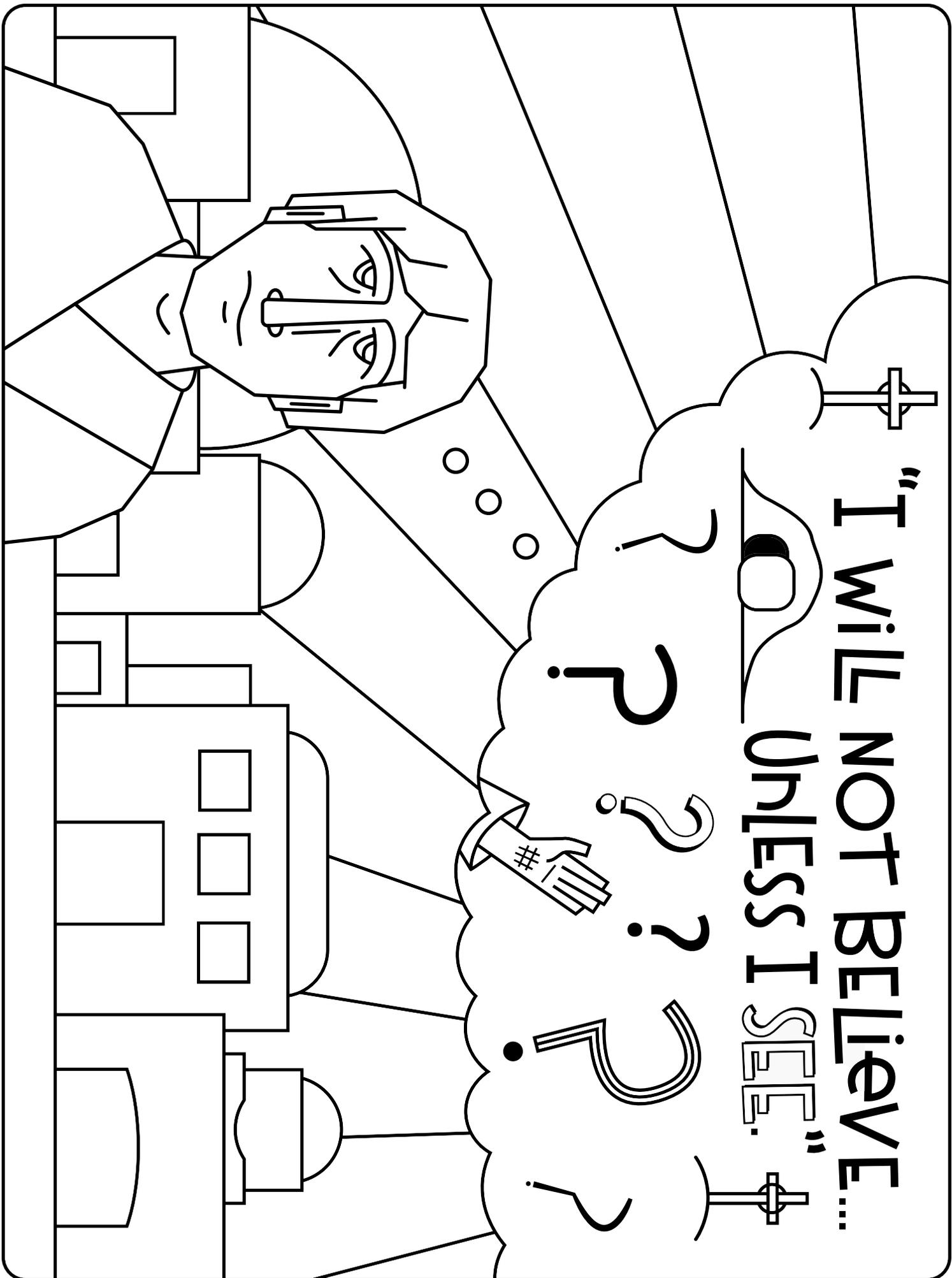
Discussion Questions

1. What do you imagine Thomas felt when his friends told him Jesus appeared to them when he wasn't there?
2. When have you had some big feelings? Did you have a hard time, at the moment, sharing what you needed? What did you realize later that you needed and who helped you feel better?
3. Jesus was kind to Thomas and assured him that his feelings were okay. What kinds of things do you need when you have big feelings, like being frustrated, upset, or sad?

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for this story about Jesus, Thomas, and the disciples. Help us show kindness and love to one another, especially when big feelings arise. Give us the strength to say what we need. **Amen.**

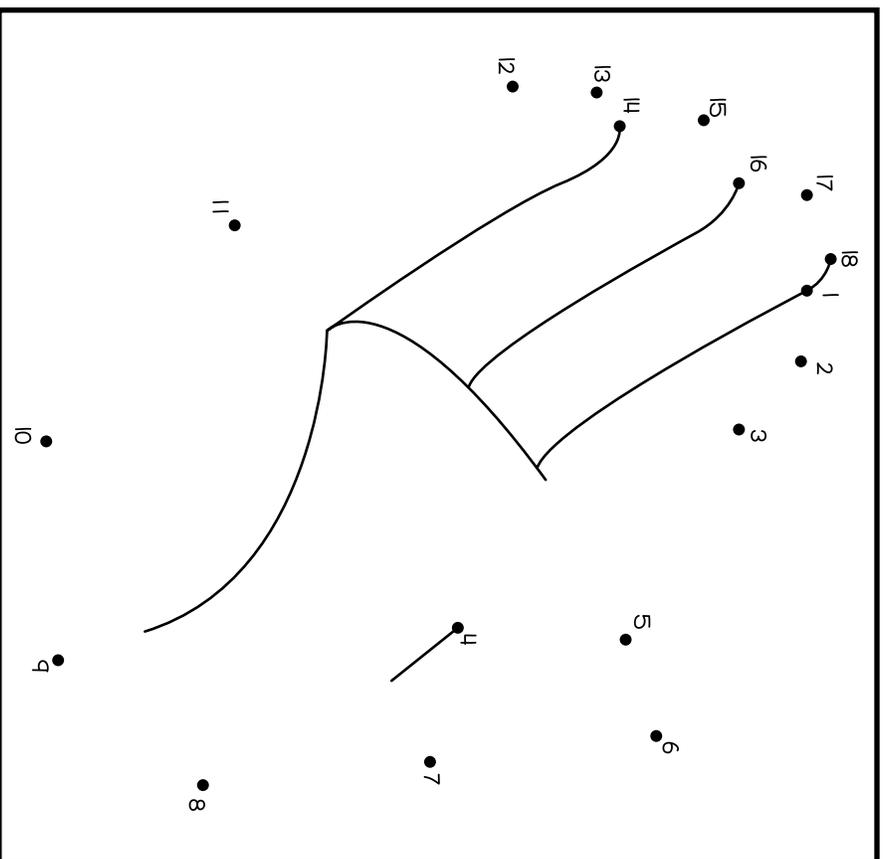
✠ "I WILL NOT BELIEVE...
UNLESS I SEE." ✠



This page left blank intentionally.

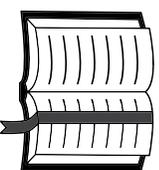
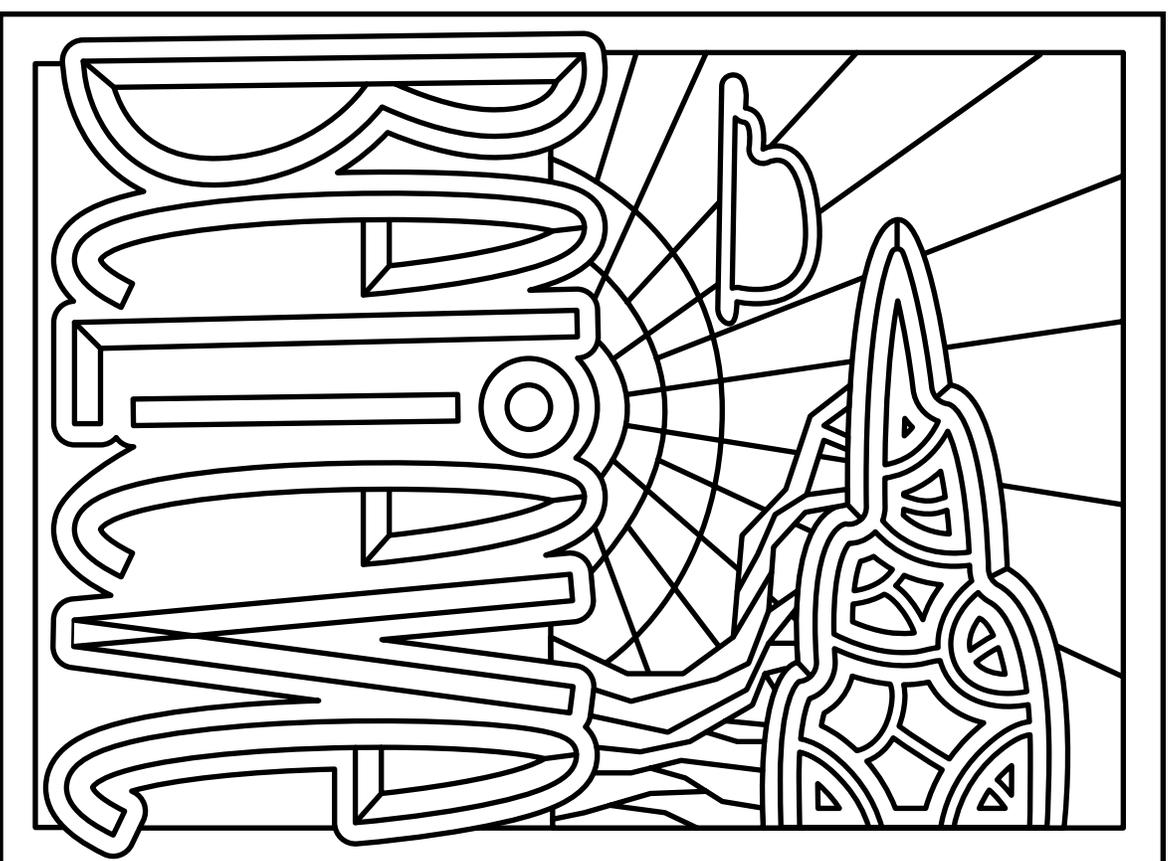
CONNECT the DOTS

Psalm 16 tells us we will be filled with joy in God's] presence for beautiful things are always at God's hand. Connect the dots to form the hand of God. Inside, draw what fills you with joy!



CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Psalm 16, 1 Peter 1:3-9, John 20:19-31.



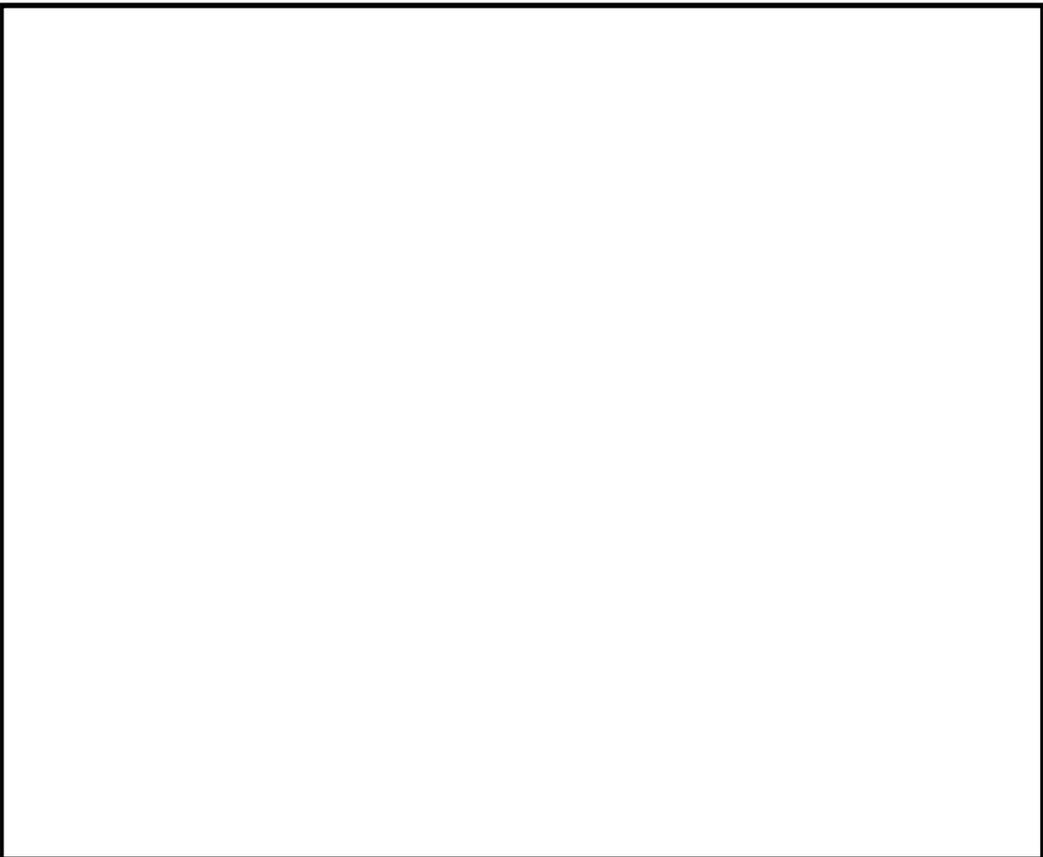
ILLUSTRATED
MINISTRY

Suggested for use on the Second Sunday of Easter based on the RCL.
Copyright © 2020 Illustrated Ministry, LLC. All rights reserved. May be reproduced for congregational use provided each copy carries this notice. illustratedministry.com



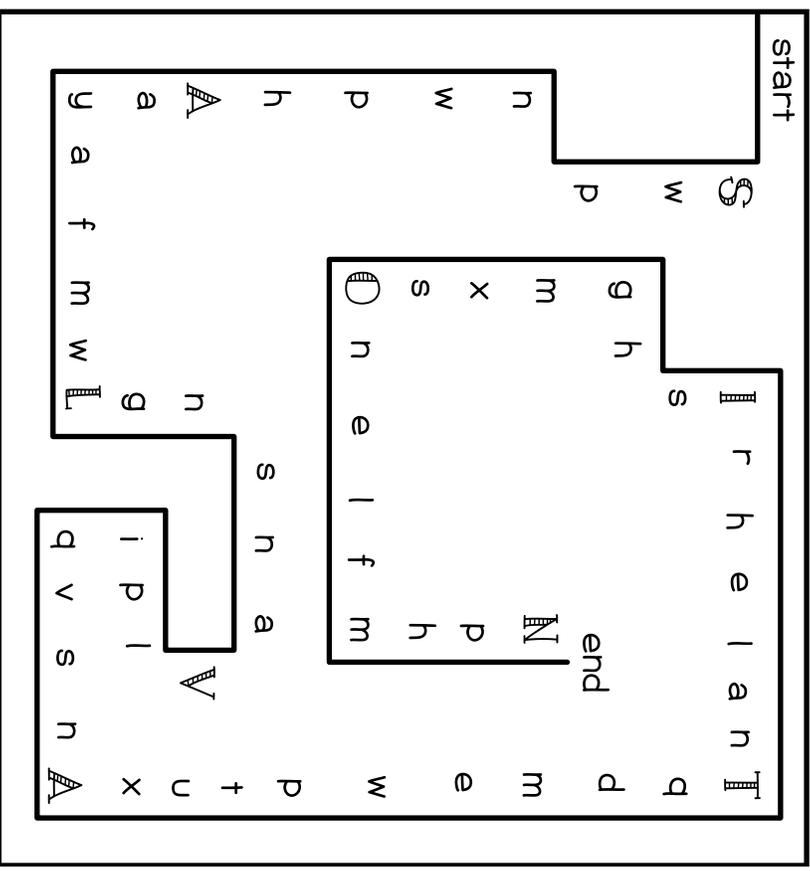
DRAW IT

When Jesus appears to his disciples for the first time after rising from death, they are amazed and shocked. They can't believe it's really him! Jesus says, "Peace be with you," and "receive the Holy Spirit." Imagine you are sitting with the disciples. What does it look like to receive the Holy Spirit from Jesus?



FOLLOW THE PATH

What does Jesus offer us through his faithfulness and love? Follow the path of letters, and each time you come to a capital letter, write that letter down at the bottom of the page. When you get to the end of the path, see what message is spelled out below.



GOD

OF

PRESENCE & STRENGTH

Help us feel you
here with us...

...when we are
anxious and afraid

WHEN THE FUTURE FEELS

UNWIELDLY

AND

UNCERTAIN

WE KNOW NOTHING IS UNKNOWN TO YOU

OUR GOD

WE KNOW YOU ARE OUR ROCK

AND OUR COMFORT IN TIMES OF

TROUBLE.

Give us WISDOM and COURAGE...

...to make CHANGES that will help...

THINGS GET BETTER.

Amen.



ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS

ARIANNE BRAITHWAITE LEHN is a mother, one half of a clergy couple, writer, and ordained minister with the Presbyterian Church (USA). As a South Dakota native, Arianne originally planned on Law School until God called her to Taiwan where everything changed. She later graduated from McCormick Theological Seminary (Chicago). She and her family live in Wilmette, Illinois. Arianne is the author of *Ash and Starlight: Prayers for the Chaos and Grace of Daily Life*. You can connect with Arianne and her writing at her website ariannebraithwaitelehn.com.

CORBY ORTMANN is a digital illustrator and animator, whose work includes caricatures, graphic design, children's books, and animated commercials/music videos. He currently lives in Fargo, North Dakota with his wife and daughter, who help him to step away from the art table every so often. You can find more of his work at www.corbyortmann.com.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

REBEKAH LOWE, a local of Kansas City, Southern California, and Austin, Texas, earned a B.A. in Biblical Studies with a minor in Leadership Studies and a minor in Hebrew at Azusa Pacific University and served as the Director of Children's Ministry at Brentwood Presbyterian Church (USA) in Los Angeles, California, for over five years. She resides in Austin, Texas with her husband and their two daughters.

ABOUT ILLUSTRATED MINISTRY'S FOUNDER + CEO

ADAM WALKER CLEVELAND is an artist, pastor, pastor's spouse, and father of four (two living). Adam is an ordained Teaching Elder in the Presbyterian Church (USA), and after doing youth ministry for over 15 years, he founded Illustrated Ministry, LLC. He resides in Racine, Wisconsin with his wife and children.